

500.40877X00

December 1, 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Y. NAKANO, et al

Serial No.: 09/987,839

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WITH REBALANCE

ARCHITECTURES

Group: 2161

Examiner: H. Thai

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is in response to the November 1, 2004 Office Action in which the Examiner alleges that restriction under 35 USC §121 is required and requested Applicants to elect one of the alleged inventions.

In response to the restriction requirement Applicants hereby elect without traverse invention Group I, claims 1-10 and 24 for further prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, an Office Action examining claims 1-10 and 24 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to deposit Deposit Account No. 02-1540.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR

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